to ask you a question-are you the mis-

dady. "I have lived there for forty ing than praying, because their corns years. I own it. I am the only person hart; and our Caristain women shut out years. I own it. I am the only person under that roof who has the right to give an order."

"And the person who sent me away ?"
"My old servant, Margaret."

Did she do it at your order." No, air, it was a piece of presump-

Then, madam, if I accompany you I shall see the patient?"

"Assuredly, sir."

I put on my hat again, and we went out of the house together. We exchanged a few words as we walked the streets. At the door of the house the old lady paused a moment.

"Don't mind Margaret," she whispered; "she means well."

Then she ascended the steps.

At the last one the door was opened to as by the woman I had twice seen be-

"The doctor must see my child, Margaret," said the old lady. Margaret stepped back.

"Walk in, sir," was all she said.

The old lady beckoned me to follow per, and I did so. She went up stairs and opened the first door she came to It was an empty bedroom. She closed It with a sigh. The next room into which she led me was also vacant. So were all the others. In fact, we visited six apartments, only one of which seemed to be regularly occupied as a sleeping chamber; and at last the old lady came to me with a strange glitter in her eyes.

"Stolen!" she said; "stolen! somebody has stolen my child. Sir, do you know, I think it must be Satan !" Then a steady step crossed the sill; Margaret came in, and the old lady, bursting into tears, suffered her to lead her away.

As I made my way down stairs Margaret rejoined me. "You understand it now," she said.

"You see this poor lady is not in her right mind." 'I do, indeed," I said.

"She had a daughter once," said Margaret, "and the girl--a pretty creature of sixteen-ran away with a bad man. She came back home one day and begged forgiveness. Her mother turned her from the door in a fury. It was night; the rain and hail beat down upon the poor thing, and the wind buffated her. There is no knowing what happened to her that night, but, next morning, she lay dead in the police station. Her mother's address was pinned to her baby's clothing, and they brought her

"From that awful day, sir, my mistress--who, in her remorse and delirium. called in twenty doctors to bring her daughter to life--bas always been doing what she has done to you.

"I try to keep the secret generally, but some find it out, and others think odd things of us. I thought I would tell you the truth. If she contrives to come again, you can promise to call, and so be rid of her. Poor soul! she has nobody in the world but me now. She's punishad for her hardness, at any rate, and you'll excuse her conduct.

I howed. I could say nothing, Margaret opened the door for me and I walked out into the fresh air.

As I looked back upon the house with all its slegance, it seemed to me to have a haunted air, as though the ghost of the poor girl still hovered about it.

God only knows how many fearful secrets such handsome homes may at times shut in," I said to myself, as I turned my back upon it gladly.

I have never seen the poor old lady since that hour. Probably Margaret has kept too close a waich upon her.

#### Dress in Church,

Dr. Talmage, in a recent sermon, gaye atterance to the following, which has a wider application than merely the Brookiyn Tabernacle: There seems to be in the churches a greet strife raging. It is an Austerlitz of ribbons. The carnage of color is seen all over our religious assemblages. Along on the outskirts of the Sabbath audiences you see, here and there a picket of fashion. But down in the middle of the church are solid columns blazing away all through the service. Five hundred "broken and contrite bearts" covered up in rainhows and spangles. Followers of the "meek and lowly Nuzarene" all a-jingle and a-flash. Ten cents for the missionary cause, and two hundred and fifty dollars for trappings. Church of God hung by the neck with gold chains, diamond locketed. Unsophisicated person traveling on two yards of silk, dragged by the lady going up the aisle in front of him. Diamonds enough to give all India the gospel. The item of dress among Christian people on the Sabbath day is an ourtage on the Christlan religion.

For graceful and beautiful apparel we have admiration. But this strife in Chris. tisp circles as to who shall excel in costly millinery, and who shall dash up to the church door in gayest turn-out, and who shall make the most emblazonment of wardrobe, is one of the great hindrances to religious advancement. Our ladies' hats and shawle are so fine that on rainy days we are afraid to go to caurch, lest we get a drop on them Our heat gear is worth more than our souls. We tester and swagger up the aisie, to the disgust of good men and the grief of angels. Boungh money is expended by the

Madam, I suswered the is a further the principality of the case all one lighter ratter, and balk all the ortine. Much of duty, said should by his pleasure, to obey been sent away from your door twice ered nuder shired basques and jabbot rutwithout seeing the patient. Allow me the and Louiseness Some of our Christ-to ask you a question—are you the mis- ian gentlemen have boots so tight they can hardly walk in paths of righteousness and they feel in church more like swearthe sun of righteousness by twenry dollar parasols, lace trimmed, silk-lined, silver-mounted. The poor are kept out of church because their plain apparel

looks so bad in contrast We want a great ecclesiastical reforms But Margaret means well: she tion in this matter of Sabbath accourts ment. Shoo these religious peacocks out of the house of God. By your example make subdued and modest costume more popular than gaudy apparel. Do not put so much dry goods on your back that you cannot climb to glory. You cannot sail into the harbor of heaven with such a rigging as that. They would level their guns at you as being a blockade ranner. Coming up to the celestial door, the gatekeeper would cry, "Halt ! you cannot go in with such regimentals." And as you answered, "I got those jewels from Tif fany, and that dress from Arnold and Constable, and those shoes from Burts," the gatekeeper would say to one of the attendants, "Take this soul down to one of the preparation rooms, and tear off those puffs and ruffles and knife-pleatings and Hamburg embroideries, and put on ber more appropriate Sunday attire; for going in as she now is, all heaven would burst out a-laughing 🖺

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